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POLAND: Peaceful Demonstration

The official celebration of V-E Day in Warsaw yesterday took place peacefully as large numbers of police provided security for the hour-long ceremony. Archbishop Glemp and Church officials throughout the country yesterday had urged the populace to avoid violence in its expressions of frustration with the regime. A regional Solidarity bulletin issued this weekend, meanwhile, announced the formation of a temporary national coordinating committee and repeated the union's call for a 15-minute work stoppage on Thursday.

Comment: Solidarity's new leadership committee apparently will try to revitalize and increase coordination of the union's efforts and will test further the regime's ability to circumscribe its activities. The government will find it difficult to deal effectively with the strike planned for Thursday. The absence of an official response probably would encourage Solidarity to sponsor more demonstrations, while overreaction with force could lead to violence.

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